

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 050645
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 SS-15 MCT-01 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 DODE-00 FBIE-00 USSS-00 CPR-01 SSO-00
NSCE-00 INRE-00 /043 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:J J ZIOLKOWSKI:LB
APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:J W TWINAM
SY/PRS:R HECKMAN

-----056395 280026Z /61

O 280005Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 050645

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR , PINS, KU

SUBJECT: THREATS TO KUWAITI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON

REFERENCE: KUWAIT 1143

1. KUWAITI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON REPORTED TWO INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT BY TELEPHONE RECENTLY. IN ONE CASE, AMBASSADOR JAFFAR'S WIFE RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM PERSON WHO THREAT- ENED DEATH TO HER OR TO OTHER MEMBER OF AMBASSADOR'S FAMILY IF EMBASSY DID NOT PAY DOLS 500. CALLER MADE THREAT, DEMANDED MONEY AND HUNG UP WITHOUT GIVING ANY OTHER INFOR- MATION OR MAKING OTHER DEMANDS. DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS EMBASSY RECEIVED ONE CALL OF THIS NATURE. EMBASSY ALSO REPORTED RECEIVING SEVERAL OBSCENE TELEPHONE CALLS THE DAY AFTER CALL DEMANDING MONEY.

2. AFTER FIRST CALL EMBASSY CONSULTED WITH DEPARTMENT (SY) AND FOLLOWING DAY AMBASSADOR JAFFAR SPOKE WITH ARP DIRECTOR
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PAGE 02 STATE 050645

TWINAM. AMBASSADOR JAFFAR SAID HE HAD ALREADY REPORTED TELEPHONE THREATS TO HIS FOREIGN MINISTRY. HE ADDED THAT HE WAS NOT REPEAT NOT AS MUCH CONCERNED WITH CALLS PER SE, BUT WITH FACT THAT CALLS WERE RECEIVED AROUND TIME WHEN HOME OF AN EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL OF WORLD BANK HAD BEEN FIRE- BOMBED. HE WAS ALSO CONCERNED BECAUSE HIS WIFE HAD PLANNED

TO LEAVE FOR KUWAIT AND HIS DAUGHTER WOULD BE HOME ALONE
OCCASIONALLY IN THE EVENING.

3. TWINAM CONTACTED DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY DIKEOS, WHO IMMEDIATELY ARRANGED FOR UNIFORMED DIVISION OF SECRET SERVICE TO PLACE EMBASSY AND RESIDENCE UNDER SPECIAL PROTECTION. WHEN TWINAM RETURNED TO JAFFAR WITH THIS INFORMATION, AMBASSADOR JAFFAR EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AND APPRECIATION FOR THESE ARRANGEMENTS. SEVERAL DAYS LATER ARP OFFICER CALLED AMBASSADOR JAFFAR'S OFFICE TO INQUIRE IF THERE WERE ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS. AMBASSADOR'S SECRETARY REPLIED IN NEGATIVE AND SAID THAT SITUATION REGARDING SECURITY WAS SATISFACTORY.

4. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT REPEAT NOT HAVE ANY INFORMATION TO SUGGEST THAT CALLS WERE ANYTHING BUT PRANKS OR THAT CALLERS WERE MOTIVATED BY ANTI-KUWAIT OR ANTI-ARAB SENTIMENT. IN CASE OF CALL DEMANDING MONEY, KUWAIT WAS ONE OF SEVERAL COUNTRIES (ASIAN AND AFRICAN) WHICH REPORTED SIMILAR PROBLEMS.
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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EMBASSIES, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL HARASSMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Reference: 78 KUWAIT 1143
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